

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01

OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 OCL-00 /081 W

----- 085828

R 111350Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4087

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0634

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: EVENTS IN ERITREA: INSURGENTS INITIATE TWO INCIDENTS

1. THE INSURGENT CAMPAIGN OF ASSASSINATION OF VARIOUS OPPONENTS CONTINUED INTO THE WEEKEND, BUT HAS NOT CLAIMED ANY VICTIMS SINCE THEN. ON AUGUST 7, AN NCO FROM THE TERRITORIAL ARMY, THE MUCH-DESPISED "BLUE BERETS", WAS SHOT TO DEATH BY REBEL ASSAILANTS DURING THE DAY. THE VICTIM WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE WORKED WITH THE JOINT COMMAND WHICH HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BULK OF THE POLITICAL ARRESTS AND EXECUTIONS.

2. THERE ARE REPORTS OF AN INSURGENT ATTACK ON ADI QUALA ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 9. REBELS REPORTEDLY PENETRATED THE TOWN'S DEFENSES AND DESTROYED THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUILDING. BOTH INSURGENTS

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AND DEFENDERS SUFFERED MODERATE CASUALTIES, IN CONFIRMATION OF WHICH

SEVEN COMMANDO POLICE WERE BURIED IN ASMARA AUG. 11. TWELVE TRUCK-LOADS OF EPMG TROOPS REPORTEDLY LEFT ASMARA ON AUGUST 10 TO REINFORCE THE GARRISON AT ADI QUALA, ONLY TO BE AMBUSHED THEMSELVES BETWEEN ADI UGRI AND ADI QUALA. THEY APPARENTLY BROKE THROUGH THE AMBUSH AND REACHED ADI QUALA. THIS ACTIVITY ALONG THE PRIMARY ASMARA-ADDIS ROAD BODES ILL FOR THE SOUTHBOUND CONVOY CURRENTLY FORMING IN ASMARA.
WAUCHOPE

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Message Attributes

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